

SENATE BILL NO. 262

INTRODUCED BY J. TROPILA

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A MOSQUITO CONTROL SPECIALIST WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO COORDINATE MOSQUITO CONTROL AT THE STATE LEVEL; SETTING OUT THE DUTIES OF THE MOSQUITO CONTROL SPECIALIST; REVISING THE RELATIONSHIP OF MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICTS WITH VARIOUS STATE DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY; AMENDING SECTION 7-22-2418, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. State mosquito control coordinator. (1) The department of agriculture shall provide a mosquito control specialist to be the coordinator and single point of contact for all issues relating to mosquito control at the state level.

(2) The mosquito control specialist shall:

(a) advise commissioners of a county with regard to the creation of any district within the county;

(b) provide technical services to districts and boards, including information on the biology, identification, surveillance, and control of mosquitoes;

(c) identify and list all agencies, counties, communities, and districts that are interested and involved in mosquito control;

(d) review annual reports and mosquito control plans from districts;

(e) assist agencies, counties, communities, and districts with:

(i) selection, calibration, and proper use of mosquito control products and equipment;

(ii) surveillance of mosquito populations; and

(iii) preparation of annual district reports and plans;

(f) participate in state, regional, and national mosquito control associations to assimilate pertinent facts and information on mosquito control, research, and education and provide the information to agencies, counties, communities, and districts;

(g) develop educational publications, workshops, and news releases to educate the public regarding

1 mosquito control activities;

2 (h) cooperate with the department of fish, wildlife, and parks in oversight of mosquitofish transplantation;

3 and

4 (i) develop a state disaster emergency response mosquito control plan and act as the primary state
5 contact for implementation of the plan.

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7 **Section 2.** Section 7-22-2418, MCA, is amended to read:

8 **"7-22-2418. Relationship of mosquito control districts and boards with department of public
9 health and human services, and department of agriculture, and department of environmental quality. (1)**

10 ~~The department of public health and human services shall advise the commissioners of a county with regard to
11 the creation of mosquito control districts within the county and upon request advise the boards of the districts in
12 connection with their control programs.~~

13 ~~(2)(1)~~ On or before February 1 of each year, the board of each district shall submit to the department
14 of public health and human services and the department of agriculture, for their review and advice, a written
15 report of its operations for the preceding year and a written plan covering its control program for the ensuing year.

16 (2) The department of public health and human services shall:

17 (a) educate the public about the risk and prevention of vector-borne diseases; and

18 (b) provide testing of mosquitoes, birds, and humans for vector-borne diseases.

19 (3) The department of environmental quality shall:

20 (a) work with districts and wastewater treatment facility operators to control mosquito propagation while
21 maintaining the treatment quality of the facilities; and

22 (b) in cooperation with the department of agriculture mosquito control specialist, provide technical
23 assistance for the design and location of wetlands constructed by any person or agency within a district."

24
25 **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an
26 integral part of Title 7, chapter 22, part 24, and the provisions of Title 7, chapter 22, part 24, apply to [section 1].

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28 **NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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